

Reports of Shipping and of Foreign Trade

26 Vessels of Shipping Board Tied Up in Day

Assignments to Service Are Now Far Smaller Than Withdrawals, Reversing Trend of May and June

4,617,000 Tons Now Idle

713 Boats of Government's Cargo Fleet Are Laid Up; No Freight for Motor Ship

Twenty-six steel vessels of the Shipping Board withdrawn from service in this district in a day—a record in the history of the government fleet—furnishes an illustration of the extent of the depression in shipping.

The board's first motor ship, the *Washington*, was allowed for service three times in a few weeks and each time returned because no cargo was in sight for it, another evidence of the dullness in the ocean freight market.

Idle Fleet Grows Rapidly

While from the beginning of May up to the middle of July more ships were being placed in service than were being withdrawn, the tide has turned and the idle fleet of the board is now increasing rapidly.

Weekly records of the assignments of the board's ships for July show the continued trend. These returns are as follows:

Week ended	Put in service	Out of service
July 1	7	6
July 8	4	4
July 15	5	10
July 22	4	8
July 29	5	10

On July 29 three vessels were assigned to service and two withdrawn, and on the 30th there were no assignments and seven withdrawals.

No changes were recorded on the 31st.

Trend Changed in July

For the month, therefore, there were twenty-seven ships assigned to service, in comparison with thirty-two withdrawn, whereas in May and June, as indicated, assignments were well in excess of withdrawals.

The record number of ships withdrawn from service was attained on August 1, when, in comparison with no vessels put into service, twenty-six were taken out. Most of these were certain to be withdrawn, as they were in the last stages of the strike there, and for which imported coal being no longer in demand abroad, there are now no cargo.

At the beginning of July the Shipping Board had a total of 689 steel cargo-carrying vessels tied up, aggregating 4,617,000 tons deadweight. By August 1 the total of idle shipping had increased to 713 vessels of 4,617,000 tons, an increase of twenty-nine ships and 296,000 tons.

The aggregate of steel cargo boats owned by the board is now 1,452 of 10,271,000 tons.

A new Mexican decree revokes the decrees of March 9, last, which prohibited the export of coal, chemicals and explosives from import duty.

The Polish government will permit free export of agricultural products through Poland of all agricultural products except sugar and spirits, according to a cablegram from the American Relief Association at Warsaw.

The Department of Commerce has created a heavy machinery industrial division, as provided for under the export control act. Walter H. Restall, of Dayton, Ohio, has been placed in charge.

Japanese advisers state that the South Sea Islands Union has been incorporated with a capital of 1,000,000 yen, for the purpose of promoting trade in the South Seas by guaranteeing export and import bills or letters of credit and by guaranteeing those accepted or issued by its own members.

Trade Commissioner Batchelder reports that the Government of India is a market for American agricultural machinery and implements is only just beginning to be appreciated, and is now already calling for small engines for farming purposes, to be driven by kerosene, fuel oil and other fuels. Gasoline is too high priced and too difficult to secure to make it practical as a fuel in the interior of India.

New Service to Venezuela

Royal Netherlands West India Mail to Take Up Sailings

Additional steamship service between New York and Venezuelan ports is being inaugurated by the reorganization of the Royal Netherlands West India Mail after their interruption during the war. Beginning next Monday, when the *Nickerie* sails from this port, a bi-weekly schedule will be followed. Passenger and cargo boats will alternate on this route; the *Nickerie* carries passengers, while the *Comandante* carries cargo.

The Venezuelan ports at which stops will be made are La Guaira, Cabello and Carapana, while connections will be made at Caracas for Maracaibo, in the center of the new oil-producing territory. The steamers will also stop at Barbados, Trinidad and other harbors.

Army Orders

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Army orders issued today follow:

Murphy, 24 Lt. Col. to El Paso. Cannon, Maj. to El Paso.

Coast Artillery

Murphy, Lt. Col. to El Paso. Cannon, Maj. to El Paso.

Miscellaneous

Benjamin, Capt. to El Paso. Arcadia, Benoit, Lt. Col. to El Paso.

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Figure indicated are standard time.

THE TIDES

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